

TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR

FIRST SELECTMAN JASON E. BOWSZA

June 4, 2020

Good evening. This is First Selectman Jason Bowsza reaching out to all town residents. A copy of this message, and more information about COVID-19, can be found on the Town's website.

Today, the local health district notified us of one new case of COVID-19 and two additional fatalities at Fresh River. This marks three straight days with no new confirmed-positive cases in the general public in our community, which is a great milestone. The Connecticut Department of Public Health is now reporting a total of 138 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in East Windsor, and an additional 13 probable cases. In Connecticut, there are now 43,239 confirmed cases.

For the last two weeks, the Town has held a drive-through testing program in partnership with Priority Urgent Care and East Windsor Public Schools. To date, over two hundred people have been tested. Some people are using the opportunity to get tested weekly, which is a very good way of controlling the spread of the virus. The next drive-through testing opportunity will be on June 10, from 10am to 3pm at East Windsor High School. No doctor's prescription is necessary for the test, all insurances are accepted, and no co-pays will be charged. People who want a test can call ahead for a pre-screen at (860) 454-0678. While prescreens are suggested, they are not required.

The last twelve weeks have been financially taxing on our community – on residents, on businesses, and on Town finances. We've taken the step of deferring property tax collection in many cases for 90 days, and we've also requested reimbursement from the Connecticut Office of Policy and Management (OPM) for more than \$150,000 in expenses, a reimbursement that would be funded through federal CARES Act. Anything recovered through the reimbursement request submitted to OPM will be eligible to be used for a match when we request funding from FEMA. We continue to look for other grant opportunities to offset costs that we've incurred.

As tennis legend Arthur Ashe said, "start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can." In the coming weeks, we'll see additional easing of restrictions as our progress continues. Please continue to take reasonable precautions to keep yourselves and the people around you safe and healthy.

I wish you continued good health,

Jason E. Bowsza First Selectman

